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• [Media](#)

Media » [NTID News](#)

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4.8.2009

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Deaf, advocates to convene here

Democrat and Chronicle - March 30, 2007

Greg Livadas

Staff writer

(March 30, 2007) – Captioned television and movies, licensing for interpreters and emergency preparedness for the deaf are among the topics on the agenda for this weekend's conference of the Empire State Association of the Deaf.

Between 50 and 75 people from across the state are expected to attend the biennial conference, this year held at Rochester Institute of Technology's National Technical Institute for the Deaf.

Conference Chairman Gary Meyer said anyone interested in attending the conference may pay at the door of the Student Development Center, starting at 8:30 a.m. Saturday; it costs \$5 to join the association and \$10 to attend conference seminars.

Interpreters will be available to accommodate hearing and deaf participants, Meyer said.

"I think a lot of people think we're satisfied" with captioning and interpreting access, Meyer, of Pittsford, said. "We need to take more of a proactive role."

Tonight, five contestants compete in the Miss Deaf New York pageant from 7 to 11 p.m. Admission to the pageant is \$20.

For a schedule of events or to learn more, go to www.esad.org.

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